

AS

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 95-720-C - ORDER NO. 96-133 ✓

FEBRUARY 26, 1996

IN RE: Application of BellSouth Telecommuni-) ORDER
cations, Inc. for Approval of an) GRANTING
Alternative Regulation Plan.) MOTIONS FOR
) CLARIFICATION

This matter comes before the Pubic Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Motions for Clarification submitted by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth or the Company) and the South Carolina Public Communications Association (SCPCA). Because of the reasoning stated below, these Motions are hereby granted.

On or about February 12, 1996, BellSouth filed its Motion for Clarification, and also submitted its amended Consumer Price Protection Plan, pursuant to Order No. 96-19. The Motion for Clarification propounded two points for consideration by the this Commission.

First, according to BellSouth, on page 4 of Order No. 96-19 in summarizing the Plan, the Order stated that the "interconnection services category" will be capped for three (3) years. BellSouth states that in the Plan as proposed by it, only the prices for switched access charges are capped for three years. Since Order No. 96-19 does not modify this provision, BellSouth

requests clarification that only switched access charges in the interconnection services category will be capped for three years. Through later submission, BellSouth also states that it would interpret the Plan as submitted by it to cap all switched access charges, including the common carrier line component for three years.

Second, BellSouth notes that in the Plan, at Section 8, page 5 of 7, BellSouth is required to notify customers of price increases through publication. However, as BellSouth notes, the Commission's procedures for such notification have been changed since the Plan was proposed by BellSouth. BellSouth would propose to clarify the Plan by substituting the following sentence in place of the language following the first sentence of Paragraph 8 of the Plan: "The Company shall give such notice pursuant to the guidelines established by the Commission." It should be noted that American Telephone and Telegraph Communications of the South, Inc. (AT&T) filed a reply to BellSouth's Motion for Clarification.

Upon examination, the Commission grants BellSouth's Motion in both particulars. We agree that the Plan as proposed by BellSouth only capped switched access charges for three years, and not the interconnection services category as a whole. Further, we agree that the switched access charges as noted by BellSouth include the common carrier line component. We therefore grant the proposed change by BellSouth.

Second, we grant the modification of the notice provision, and hold that the Company shall give such notice pursuant to the

guidelines established by the Commission. The language following the first sentence of Paragraph 8 of the Plan is hereby modified accordingly to comport with the Commission's new notice provisions.

Next, the SCPCA filed its Motion to Clarify, stating its belief that BellSouth's intent was to move its Public Telephone Access Service (PTAS) for Customer Provided Equipment into the Basic Service category. However, SCPCA states that BellSouth changed its terminology. SCPCA states its belief that it is entitled to an Order of the Commission requiring BellSouth to reword its amended Consumer Price Protection Plan to include PTAS as set forth in General Subscriber Service Tariff Section A 7.4, in the Basic Services category.

The Commission has examined this Motion for Clarification, and agrees with the reasoning as stated by SCPCA. We believe that it was BellSouth's intent to move its PTAS into the Basic Services category. Therefore, we hold that BellSouth shall reword its amended Consumer Price Protection Plan to include PTAS as set forth in General Subscriber Service Tariff Section A 7.4 in the Basic Services category.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until
further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)